Conference of State Urban Development Ministers

1953. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Conference of State Urban Development Ministers held recently in the Capital, the State Ministers have pointed out that the financial condition of most municipal bodies were pathetic and they are barely able to provide the basic minimum amenities to the people; and

(b) if so, what are Government's plans to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) In the two-day Conference of Ministers of Local Self Government and Urban Development of States and Union Territories was held at New Delhi on 17-18 January, 2000, various issues relating to Urban Development and Municipal Administration were discussed. The present state of financial condition of municipal bodies also figured in the discussion.

(b) As per Entry 5 of the State List of the Constitution, Local Government is a State subject. Therefore, it is for the concerned State Governments to take remedial steps to improve the financial conditions of municipal bodies. In order to assist the State Governments and Municipal Bodies, the Ministry of Urban Development is already operating Centrally Soponsored Schemes such as Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns; Infrastructure Development in Mega Cities; Low Cost Sanitation for liberation of Scavengers: Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme, etc. Under these schemes, financial assistance is provided to State Governments, to improve the urban infrastructure to provide better civic facilities to the people.

Subletting of Minto Road Press Pool Quarters

1954. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of subletting of Minto Road Press Pool Quarters were detected during the last five years;